

Bridgeport Bank Issued 5 Dollar Photo

1 message



Sat, Aug 7, 2010 at 10:35 PM

Hi Eric,

It was a real pleasure chatting with you yesterday. I'll look forward to a much longer chat when we can meet in St. Louis.

Unfortunately, I had only a few hours available to me on Friday to locate the presumed negative and it turned out to not be enough time. The problem was that the bundle of photos for that and several other CT banks was missing from my file cabinet and must be buried in a box of papers still not unpacked from the move to my present house. Without the print I don't have the negative number and would have to go through up to 125,000 negatives to find it. I leave for my vacation first thing in the morning and I had to work in the pharmacy all day today. I should also mention that there is about a 5% chance that the photo doesn't even exist; that is, a few percent of the listings are based on notes or photocopies I saw but could not photograph.

The best way to solve the problem depends on how much time you have. I will be back from vacation on 8/21 and could probably come up with the negative (if there is one) within a couple of days after that. If you need help more urgently, there's a possible solution: contact Krause Publications and ask for George Cuhaj. You might have dealt with him before. He's a nice guy. KP was provided with a full set of all the prints, even those that were not ultimately used in the catalog. If George can find the print, he can scan it and email the scan to you. It will not be quite as good as a scan from the original negative, but it will certainly be adequate. Of course, I'd still be happy to try help you if you've got the time to wait until I get back. Just let me know.

All the best,

Jim

P.S. I'll be staying with Walter Allan in Canada. His phone number is You can call anytime. We'll be there from late Monday afternoon through 8/19. I'll also dig up his email address and send it in a separate email.



Phone Call

3 messages

Jim Haxby <
To:

Mon, Aug 23, 2010 at 10:10 PM

Hi Eric,

I'm back from my trip to Canada and will be looking for a negative of the issued Bridgeport Bank \$5 tomorrow on my day off. In the meantime, I have found a bank-note usage of the "running grouse" vignette that predates (FDU imprint) the CT usage you found (but not the still-missing NJ note). We can discuss that during a phone call. Are you free to receive a call tomorrow?

All the best,

Jim

To:

Tue, Aug 24, 2010 at 1:50 PM

Dear Jim:

Since you Emailed me last night I suppose you want to talk to me today. I have been out all morning and did not open my Email but now I have and am ready at any time today. I look forward to your call and have things to tell you. Eric [Quoted text hidden]

Jim Haxby <

Tue, Aug 24, 2010 at 2:22 PM

Hi Eric,

I just got your email and have to go out until about 4:30PM. I'll call you as soon as I get back.

Jim

From:

Sent: Tuesday, August 24, 2010 1:50 PM

To:

Subject: Re: Phone Call





(no subject)

1 message

To:

Thu, Aug 26, 2010 at 9:45 AM

Dear Jim:

It was great talking to you this morning.

My address for sending the Canadian catalog and any other items is

Eric P. Newman 6450 Cecil Ave. St. Louis MO 63105

My best. Eric

Gmail - Book, Photo



Eric Newman <

Book, Photo

1 message

1/23/2019

Jim Haxby < To:

Mon, Sep 13, 2010 at 9:23 AM

Hi Eric,

Unexpected heavy pressure stemming from a major software conversion at work and difficulties re: finishing a paper of my own (on a Canadian coin subject for Numismatica Canada) delayed my digging out the book and sending it to you as soon as I had hoped. Anyway, you should receive it in today's mail (with the appropriate page flagged). I've been checking my negatives as time permits, but have still not found an image of the issued Bridgeport note. I can tell you, though, that the negative is not part of the American Antiquarian Society notes I photographed. I'll keep you posted on my other searching. I've already searched through about 10,000 negatives.

Hope you are well,

Jim

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Fairman, etc.

3 messages

Jim Haxby <
To:

Thu, Sep 16, 2010 at 7:04 AM

Hi Eric,

Based on your estimate when we last talked, I trust you are well along on the revision of your paper. I've been continuing to go through negatives and am well advanced on that, too, but still no luck on finding an image of the issued Bridgeport note. In the meantime, I've discovered the probable source of the Canadian note with the grouse. It was a 4-on proof sheet, which has doubtless been cut into the individual notes, as is so often the case. I can include that as part of a little writeup.

If you want more information on Gideon Fairman, it might be worth including some tidbits on Gideon's whereabouts in the period 1808-10, a time when some people have thought that he was in Newburyport working for Jacob Perkins. Perkins was not a skilled engraver himself and he had to rely on others for fine engraving work (like the microlettering on his notes). At first the work was done by James Akins, but Akins left Newburyport in 1808 and went to Philadelphia. He was replaced in 1808-10 by a Fairman, who has been assumed to be Gideon. It is well known that they were friends later in Philadelphia and that Perkins and one of his sons actually resided at Fairman's home in Philadelphia. And, I have correspondence and other evidence indicating that while Perkins was in Philadelphia that new vignette work required for his Newburyport operation was being done in Philadelphia, not Newburyport. Undoubtedly, Fairman was doing it. And, of course, Gideon later went to England with Perkins in 1819.

During the first part of the 19th century Gideon was working in Albany, NY, having served an apprenticeship to the engravers and jewelers, Isaac and George Hutton. I believe he never left Albany until he moved to Philadelphia in 1810. Accounts of the Vermont State Bank, which I discovered during a research trip to VT, clearly show that their first issue was produced by Gideon Fairman in Albany and that deliveries were made into 1809. There was always some confusion about his early work because he never placed an imprint on his plates. The VT State Bank was a big note issuer, being a state-owned multi-branch institution. Interestingly, Fairman lost the contract to none other than Jacob Perkins. The VT State Bank contract must have been Fairman's best contract and the loss of it must have really hurt. This could well have been the most important single reason for his giving up business on his own and moving to Philadelphia the following year.

The Fairman who worked for Perkins in Newburyport must have been Gideon's brother, David, also an engraver. David is known to have been in Newburyport engraving maps at that time and he could easily have done both things. Akins before him had carried on an active business on his own in addition to engraving bank notes for Perkins. Part of the reason for the close connection between Jacob Perkins and Gideon Fairman, then, could have been because of Gideon's brother, David.

Let me know if any of the above fits into what you are doing. Perhaps another phone conversation would be in order. If a side bar is to come from me, I'd certainly like to talk about the form, size, etc.

All the best,

Jim

Thu, Sep 16, 2010 at 6:16 PM

Dear Jim:

the 6th edition of Canadian Bank Notes arrived in good shape and I thank you sincerely for it.

I now must ask you a number of questions:

Was the \$5 Bank of Montreal proof listed in other editions or imaged in other editions as that would be important? Let me know the earliest and the page number...

Were you the discoverer of the grouse on the proof Canadian bank note and who if any have you told about it? The 6th edition gives a \$600 value for the \$5 proof bank note and it would be great for me to acquire an example if such. an item is actually available. That would mean that there was more than one sheet, to which you refer in your message as the original and is probably in the national collection..

For publication I think it would be necessary to obtain a clear digital image which could be used for publication as the engraving firm's name particularly is very unclear on the image in the book you sent. Perhaps the publisher has such an image.

The 6th edition is dated 2008 and I wonder if another edition is in the works.

Eric

To answer your questions about my progress I am glad to tell you that University of Pennsylvania Press has printed the off prints ordered by Peck and me at our expense and said they are on the way to Peck. Peck will then send me a group of off prints. I have not even seen an original printing of the Journal of the Early Republic containing our article (printed by the above Press) and thus have been delayed in the revision. I have started it. I want to eliminate anything without real numismatic interest and am urged by the Numismatist to have it short enough for one issue. That is why I am studying about and thinking about your wonderful material on Perkins related engraving ability or lack thereof at that time. (See August 2010 The Numismatist on "Perkins and the Washington Medal" by John Kraljevich which says Perkins did some complex engraving in Newburyport in 1792 of the Washington President and other coins and medals). I think this issue should be a separate article by you or someone else because I disagree with Kraljevich based mostly on other of my research.

As to your grouse side bar for The Numismatist I want you to be satisfied completely with it but naturally it may be edited a little.

I am sorry it is so tedious for you to keep looking for the issued Bridgeport note source but c'est la vie.

My wife and I are going to Peter and Carol Gaspar's country home on Sunday so we will get in some numismatic discussion. I also look forward to your contemplated visit to St. Louis.

Did you know that my grandfather graduated from the St. Louis College of Pharmacy about 1874 and met my grandmother later at a school picnic?

Thank you again for being you.

[Quoted text hidden]

Jim Haxby <

Thu, Sep 16, 2010 at 10:28 PM

Hi Eric.

I'll deal with your various questions as quickly as I can. For the past two weeks I've been putting in very long hours and am definitely sleep-deprived. Most of it has been related to my work at the pharmacy and our change to a new pharmacy software system that is driving us all mad. Anyway, a couple of things I can answer right away and the rest I can answer (at least as much as I know) in the next few days. The first is that I am the one who discovered the grouse on the Canadian note. I told my friend Walter Allan about it, as it was at his house that I discovered it (by finding a photograph of one of the

notes in a pile of misc. things he had). After I found the photograph, I looked the note up in his catalog (the same edition I sent you) and found it was illustrated there. I haven't got all the previous editions of the catalog, but Walter does and I'll have him check them right away. I believe that a new edition is not being contemplated for at least 12 months. I can find out more about that point, too.

Walter gave me the photo of the Canadian note he had (check letter B --- the second note from the top). It is a bit dark, but clearly shows the imprint: Fairman, Draper Underwood & Co. I'll scan the photo and remove the darkness and we'll see how it looks.

Re: Perkins' engraving ability. While I am convinced that his bank-note engraving ability was primitive, I have no basis for a similar claim about his ability to engrave coinage and medal dies. For his first steel bank-note plate (finished in 1805) Perkins relied heavily on James Akin for the engraving and he publically said so. By the way, I have to add to what I said earlier that not only was some vignette work done in Philadelphia for Perkins' Newburyport operation, but at least one (and probably two) full plates were engraved there as well. In fact the one plate was referred to in bank-note company accounts and some correspondence I found as the "Philadelphia" plate. It featured a glorious full-note vignette that to me is undoubtedly the work of Fairman.

I didn't know about your grandfather--how interesting!!

More soon,

Jim

From:

Sent: Thursday, September 16, 2010 6:16 PM

To:

Subject: Re: Fairman, etc.



Missing Emails

2 messages

Jim Haxby <
To:

Fri, Oct 29, 2010 at 1:21 PM

Hi Eric,

I've just received an email from Peter Gaspar advising me that you've sent some recent emails to me that have been unanswered. No emails from you have arrived here for two months!! I don't know where they went, but they apparently didn't come here. I'm totally mystified as to what could have happened. Please use a reply to this email to send whatever message you wish. I have got some more information on the origin and fate of Canadian sheet with the grouse.

All the best,

Jim

do:

Sun, Oct 31, 2010 at 5:00 PM

Dear Jim:

I think our telephone conversation cleared up the fact that you received all my Emails. You gave me in the conversation much of the items I asked for. Your data that American Bank Note Company Archives auction sale contained the Bank of Montreal sheet was very helpful. Now I need an improved image of the grouse note from the Bank of Canada collection and hope you can get it If you want me to do it please suggest who to write to and whether I should send a copy of the off print of the article. Thank you for being of so much help

[Quoted text hidden]



(no subject)

1 message

To:

Tue, Nov 9, 2010 at 8:30 PM

Dear Jim:

I was under the impression from our last telephone conversation that you were going to try send me the auction and lot number wherein was the Bank of Montreal \$5 proof. I learned that it was in an American Bank Note Archives Sale. I find that Christie had several such sales and my library only had an enormous Christie sale in summer 1991, it being the third and last of those Archives. I think there was an earlier sale around the midwinter of 1990 - 1991 which contained many foreign bank note proofs. Would you be kind enough to send me the date and lot number if you can. I can get the ANA Library to send me a photostatic copy unless you can make one.

I did not want to ask the Bank of Canada for a fine image of its example of the note until I had your permission. *To whom shall I write unless you want to make the request?*

I now have obtained off prints of the grouse article and can send you it and the large Princeton University book on its American Paper Money Exhibit which opened September 30 and will continue for the balance of the year.

Thank you for your cooperation and I look forward to your St. Louis visit whenever you and Peter arrange it.

My best

Eric.



Bank of Montreal

2 messages

Thu, Nov 11, 2010 at 5:18 PM

Dear Jim:

I was glad to be able to locate at the ANA library the listing of the \$5 Bank of Montreal \$5 sheet in the Christies Sale of Nov. 28 - 29, 1990 as lot # 367 with a few wrinkles and minor impairments and a Bank of Virginia \$20 sheet, both SENC and estimated at \$800 to \$1,200 total. Thank you for the clue. There should be three other Bank of Montreal notes somewhere. There was no printed image with that lot.

Now my hope is that you will tell me who to contact to obtain a fine image. Thanks for your help.

Eric

Jim Haxby <

Sat, Nov 13, 2010 at 12:39 AM

Hi Eric,

Sorry for the delay in getting back to you. My wife fell and broke her foot and things have been upside down lately. Also, I'm currently under considerable pressure from Whitman in regard to a new catalog on Canadian coins and tokens I'm producing. It has been progressing slowly for many months because they were too busy with Dave Bowers' various books to deal with it. Now, suddenly, they are gung ho. You know how the publishing business goes. Anyway, when I have time next week I can to scan and try to clean up the darkish photograph of the Bank of Montreal note I got from Walter Allan. The source of the best photo, though, would probably be from the National Currency Collection (of Canada) at the Bank of Canada in Ottawa. They have a website that you can find through Google to get their contact info. They would charge you, probably \$35.

Talk to you next week,

Jim

From:

Sent: Thursday, November 11, 2010 5:18 PM

Subject: Bank of Montreal



Fwd: Bank of Montreal Scan

1 message

Io:

Fri, Nov 19, 2010 at 3:51 PM

From:

To:

Sent: 11/19/2010 12:04:36 P.M. Central Standard Time

Subj: Fwd: Bank of Montreal Scan

From:

To:

Sent: 11/19/2010 8:25:54 A.M. Central Standard Time

Subj: Bank of Montreal Scan

Hi Eric,

Attached is a file containing my reworked scan of Walter Allan's photo of the Bank of Montreal note. It's not too bad considering the source. Hopefully, it will serve your purpose and you won't have to go to the trouble and expense of obtaining a better image from the Bank of Canada. Let me know if there's anything else I can do. I've searched most of my negatives and still no image of an issued Bridgeport note.

All the best,

Jim



BofMGrouseT600-2.tif 5063K



Bank of Montreal Scan

3 messages

Jim Haxby <

Fri, Nov 19, 2010 at 9:17 AM

Hi Eric,

Attached is a file containing my reworked scan of Walter Allan's photo of the Bank of Montreal note. It's not too bad considering the source. Hopefully, it will serve your purpose and you won't have to go to the trouble and expense of obtaining a better image from the Bank of Canada. Let me know if there's anything else I can do. I've searched most of my negatives and still no image of an issued Bridgeport note.

All the best,

Jim



B of M Grouse T600-2.tif 5063K

Dear Jim:

Fri, Nov 19, 2010 at 2:34 PM

Thank you very much for the improved image of the Bank of Montreal \$5 Plate B. I wonder whether the other three notes in the sheet still exist or were damaged or lost. I am sure you tried to find them.

Apparently the lost Bank of Bridgeport signed note may show up but if it does not it is not a material item in any revision of any grouse material I hope to write up..

I hope your wife's foot is recovering and wonder if she had a fall as I did. If her balance is not perfect it is very common for people to use a cane or a walker. My March fall was so terrible (broken vertebra) I am only about 95% recovered. I use a rolling walker at all times when I move.

If I can do anything for you at any time please feel free to call on me. Eric [Quoted text hidden]

Jim Haxby <

Fri, Nov 19, 2010 at 3:15 PM

Hi Eric,

The other three notes on the sheet almost certainly exist and, as far as I can tell, were undamaged. I was able to ascertain that the Christies lot was purchased by a Canadian dealer. Through my friend, Walter Allan, I asked him if he still had any of the notes, but he said they were all sold years ago. The only sale he remembers was to the National Currency collection at the Bank of Canada, which must have been made after the sheet was cut up into the four notes. When the check letter B note (which happens to be the note the Bank of Canada got) was

photographed, it was still part of the sheet. I cropped out the portion of the note above that was in Walter Allan's photo.

My wife is a runner and she broke two bones in her foot while running. I think she stepped on a hidden rock. Fortunately, she didn't fall. She has a protective boot to wear during the day, so she can get around OK. I'm sure she'll recover completely, given a bit of time.

Thanks so much for your offer of assistance. I really appreciate it and will certainly let you know if anything comes to mind. In the meantime, Eric, take care of yourself and I'll very much look forward to seeing you when I manage to come out to St. Louis!

Best Wishes,

Jim

From: Sent: Friday, November 19, 2010 2:34 PM

Subject: Re: Bank of Montreal Scan

